Technology viz. CFTRI, Mysore, IIT, Kharagpur and Paddy Precessing Research Centre (PPRC), Thanjavur during 1993. The CFTRI, Mysoe undertook the trial milling study in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka during 1993-94 and submitted their report during August/October 1994. The report of CFTRI, Mysore, together with those of the other two institutions , were considered by an Expert Committee constituted by the Government Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee received during November 1994, the Government of India have fixed the out-turn ratio of 67% and 68% in Raw and Parboiled rice respectively uniformly applicable for all States since 1995-96.

However, on the request of Government of Punjab, a fresh study has been entrusted to CFTRI, Mysore during October, 1999 to undertake laboratory trial milling of Paddy grown in Punjab. The study was commenced during October 1999 and is still in progress.

Pay/OTA Bill of Super Bazar

†5051. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total pay bill of Super Bazar during the year ending on March, 1996

(b) the amount of overtime paid to employees during the said period;

(c) whether this pay bill was more in comparison to that of March, 1993;

(d) the total amount incurred on transport allowance, refreshment, other allowances during the said period; and

(e) the justification of these overheads vis-a-vis the sales which have been declining due to grocery and other sections remaining empty month after month in Super Bazar branches particularly in Connaught Place, New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) The Super Bazar has reported its pay bill during the year ending March, 1996 was Rs.9,58,17,715.81 on salary and Rs.71,71,875.15 was towards employees' contribution in Provident Fund. The total pay bill was thus Rs.10,29,89,590.96. During the said period, the overtime allowance paid to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the employees was Rs.20,90,721.35

(c) Yes Sir. The amount of the total pay bill in the year ending 1996 was more by Rs.2,88,83,218.75 in comparison to that of March, 1993.

(d) The Super Bazar, Delhi has reported that during the said period, transport allowance, sales promotion (refreshment) expenses/other expenses paid were as follows:

(i)	Transport allowance (by reimbursement)	Rs.18,40,383.95
(ii)	Sales Promotion (refreshment expenses)	Rs.77.829.25
(iii)	House Rent Allowance	Rs.59,96,855.30
(iv)	Compensatory Allowance	Rs.5,45,580.05
(v)	Medical Allowance & Medical Reimbursement	Rs.12,99,518.20

(e) Such overheads are of a compulsory nature and cannot be linked to sales only. It is however, true that sales have been declining during the last few years as follows:

1997-98	Rs.126.80 crores
1998-99	Rs.125.27 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 83.01 crores

There are also less goods available for sale because suppliers have reduced supplies because of lack of timely payments etc.

Loss of Foodgrains by Rodents ETC.

5052. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about two crore tonnes of foodgrains worth more than Rs.40,000 crores is lost every year due to attacks of insects, rodents, moisture, birds, micro-organisms, etc.,

(b) what is Government's estimate about such damage and loss of foodgrains, per year, item-wise, for 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent such massive loss and damage to foodgrains in the country when about 35% of the country's population still lives below poverty line and are undernourished?